



Western Suburbs Radio Club Inc.

February 2013 Newsletter

ZL1AC, Branch 03 NZART 3000 Great North Road New Lynn,
PO Box 15-122 New Lynn WAITAKERE 0640
President: Ian Sangster ZL1RCA, Vice President – Grant Manning ZL1GSM.
Secretary: Roy Milam ZL1WI. Newsletter Editor – John Neill ZL1NE
VHF Club Net Wednesday 07:30pm 146.525 MHz,
HF Club Net Fridays 07:30pm 3.650 MHz
Website <http://www.qsl.net/zl1ac>

Club Calendar

Saturday	9 th	February	Committee Meeting – 9:00am
Saturday	9 th	February	Club Meeting 10:00am – Preparation for the Field Day
Saturday	23 rd	February	HF Field Day
Saturday	23 rd	March	Committee Meeting – 9:00am
Saturday	23 rd	March	Club Meeting 10:00am – Programme to be announced
Saturday	27 th	April	Committee Meeting – 9:00am
Saturday	27 th	April	Annual General Meeting at 10:00am followed by Club Meeting

February Meeting

Club meetings are usually held on the fourth Saturday each month. However in February this coincides with the HF field day. For this reason the club meeting and committee meeting day has been bought forward two weeks. The programme for the general meeting on the 9th February will be devoted to preparation for the Field day.

Club House Access

Recently the Auckland Council has installed a chain across the entrance to the Clubhouse Site. This is to stop unwanted vehicles entering the site. The chain is padlocked and keys will be issued to committee members shortly. Council also has a padlock on the other end of the chain as they need access from time to time for maintaining the grass and other stream maintenance work.

Council has also installed a metal drive up to the clubhouse which should give us better wet weather access.

Our thanks go to the Auckland Council for carrying out this work.



The chain across the entrance.



The new metal drive.

HF Field Day

This year we will be going to Sapich Vineyard at 150 Forrest Hill Rd for the Field Day. This is the same site as we have used for the last few years.

The field day competition enables amateurs to set up a remote radio station powered by batteries, a generator or any other means other than mains electricity. The importance for this is being prepared for communications duties should a national disaster occur and mains electricity not be available and amateurs needing to pass messages for the general public.

Communications are made on phone and CW (Morse Code) to give amateurs practice in sending and receiving in both modes. Contacts during field day are made using the 80 and 40 metre bands. The contest runs Saturday afternoon and evening and Sunday morning to mid-afternoon. Full contest rules can be found at:

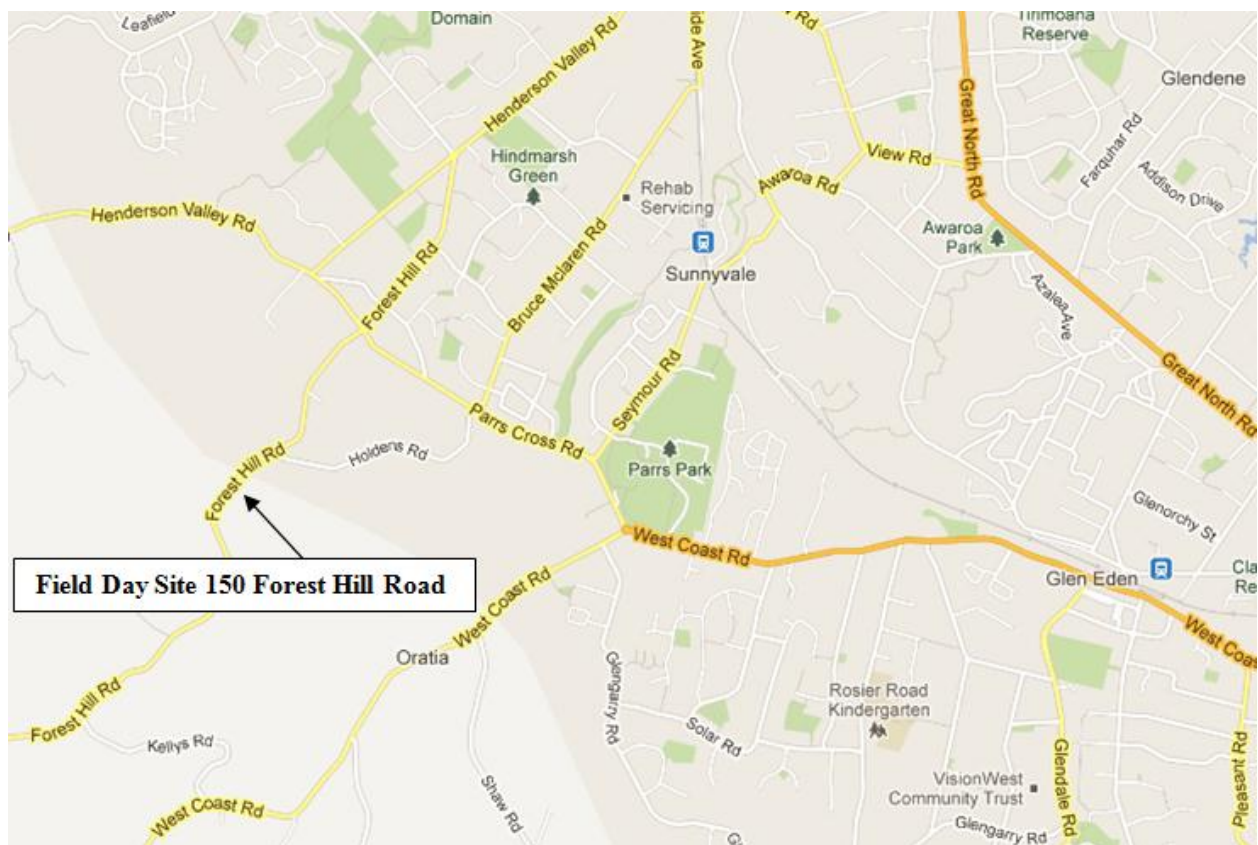
<http://www.nzart.org.nz/activities/contest-rules/rules-jock-white-field-day/>

The club will have two tents for the activity and it will be possible to sleep over in these tents if you wish. Otherwise you may wish to bring your own tent, campervan, or sleep in the back of the station wagon. The site is not too far out of town and it will be possible to go home for the night if you wish.

You do not need to spend the whole weekend on site. If you can only spare a few hours then you are most welcome to come for the time you can manage.

If you would like to be involved with this activity, then please contact either:

- Ian Sangster on 09 814 9597 or
- Grant Manning on 021-1731856.



Location Map of the Field Day Station Site

Club Nets

VHF Net 146.525 MHz 7:30pm every Wednesday,
HF Net 3650 KHz +/- QRM/QRN 7:30pm every
Friday. All are welcome to check in on the nets.

1-Feb-13	ZL1RCA	Ian
8-Feb-13	ZL1MW	Brian
15-Feb-13	ZL2ATZ	Tony
22-Feb-13	ZL1WI	Roy

The HF Net roster is opposite. The full HF Net roster can be found on:

<http://www.qsl.net/zl1ac/wsrc-hf-roster.pdf>

1-Mar-13	ZL1NE	John
8-Mar-13	ZL1RCA	Ian
15-Mar-13	ZL1MW	Brian
22-Mar-13	ZL2ATZ	Tony
29-Mar-13	ZL1WI	Roy
5-Apr-13	ZL1NE	John
12-Apr-13	ZL1RCA	Ian
19-Apr-13	ZL1MW	Brian
26-Apr-13	ZL2ATZ	Tony

2-metre Sideband Net

Last year, the Hams of Auckland tried a 2-metre SSB net on Sunday evenings following the ZL1BQ (Auckland VHF Group) News and Net. The VHF News and Net can be found on either 146.625 MHz (Klondike Repeater) or 439.875 MHz (National System) at 8:15 pm. The 2-metre SSB net is immediately after this on 144.200 MHz upper side band.

The SSB net is therefore on at about 8:30 to 8:40 pm just depending on how long the previous net runs. Roy ZL1KL and John ZL1NE try and come up on this net each week and it is surprising sometimes the distances that can be achieved using SSB. On occasions there have been up to six stations checking in. If you have a 2-metre rig capable of single of sideband then do have a try at making contact with the group.

Engineered Documentaries

Tony ZL2ATZ has nearly a full set of the “Engineered” documentary series on VHF Tape. He has offered to lend these to any club members who would like to look at them.

Tony can be contacted at tonystroobant@orcon.net.nz

Avondale College Radio Class 1946

Roy ZL1LK found this photograph and article recently, and it is reproduced here with the kind permission of Historian Delwyn Lone whom we thank for allowing us to use this material.



RADIO CLUB

The fascination of construction and economy of design brought about by the introduction of new types of battery valves, as well as the striking use made of electronics in the war, has given a large following to the Radio Club.

The interest is livened by competitions and quizzes—crystal set, single valve, three and four valve sets have all been the subject of competition, as has been also the drawing up of circuits. Prize-winners have been:

M. Davies—First in 4-valve T.R.F., and first in 4-valve circuit design.

A. E. Wood—Second in 4-valve T.R.F.

K. Williams—First in crystal set.

R. Wilkinson—Second in crystal set.

D. Frankham—First in 1-valve set.

From time to time lectures have been given—at present a series on Radar and its applications.

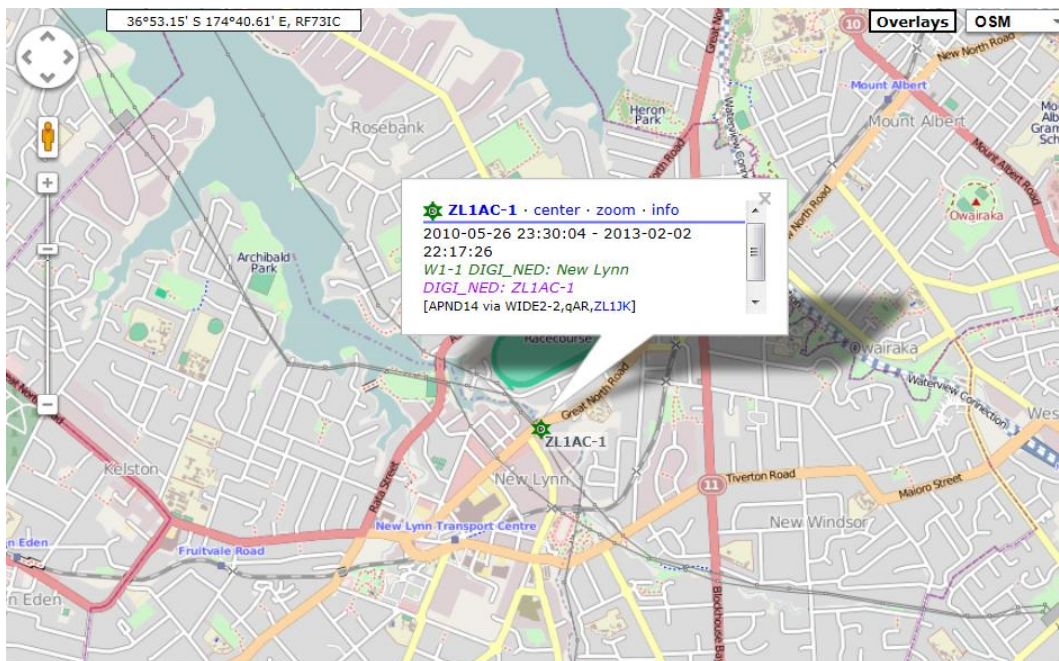
Donations of used parts, valves and chassis, etc., from enthusiastic or benevolent dealers would be appreciated. Another difficulty is that of limited time. Individual troubles with set construction and design get rather inadequate attention, and also little time can be given to lectures.

AREC

No AREC activities are planned for the near future other than Filed Day.

APRS Repeater

The Western Suburbs Radio Club runs an APRS Repeater for the use of hams passing through the New Lynn Area. This allows vehicles equipped with GPS, the appropriate computer and 2-metre radio to report their position as they move around. Have a look at the website at <http://aprs.fi/>. You will be able to see our club station and with luck you may find a moving vehicle. On loading the web site it often shows Wellington or somewhere in the USA so you will need to convince it that West Auckland is a better location to be looking at. This can be done by zooming out and panning to Auckland or searching for a location or callsign. The repeater transmits on 144.575 MHz but you will need to be able to connect your 2-metre radio to your computer and use appropriate software to make any sense of the noise that is being transmitted.



The location of the APRS repeater ZL1AC-1